



May 2005

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### • **Legislative Update**

The following designation bills were introduced in April:

- On April 18, **S. 825** to establish the **Crossroads of the American Revolution National Heritage Area** in the State of New Jersey.
- On April 28, **S.973** to establish the **Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area** in the State of Illinois.

The following suitability and feasibility study bills were introduced in April:

- On April 20, **H.R. 1728** to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating the **French Colonial Heritage Area** in the State of Missouri as a unit of the National Park System.

There are now **seven study bills on six areas** and **eighteen designation bills on twelve areas** introduced in Congress.

Other heritage area bills of interest:

- On April 26, **H.R.1820** to amend the **Illinois and Michigan Canal National Heritage Corridor** Act of 1984 to help ensure the appropriate transition of the management entity of the heritage corridor, and for other purposes.

For list of legislation currently introduced in the 109<sup>th</sup> Congress, visit <http://www.cr.nps.gov/heritageareas/LEG/introbills109.pdf>

### • **Update on the NPS Advisory Board Partnerships Committee**

-On April 16, the NPS Advisory Board Partnerships Committee presented its findings and recommendations on the **Future of the National Heritage Areas in the National Park System** to the NPS Advisory Board during their meeting in Palm Springs, CA. The Advisory Board approved the recommendations with a few minor changes. On April 27, during the Alliance of National Heritage Areas (ANHA) Spring meeting in MotorCities National Heritage Area,



members of the Partnerships Committee reviewed the findings and recommendations with ANHA members and NPS staff, including Ernie Quintana, Midwest Regional Director. Attendees participated in a moderated discussion concerning implementation of the committee's recommendations. The ANHA was asked to play an active role in shaping implementation strategies that ensure quality heritage development programs and practices. The Partnerships Committee will remain active for one more year to continue to explore issues related to their charge. An interim report on the committee's work is planned for release in Fall 2005.

## ● This Month in the Heritage Areas

-The **Blue Ridge National Heritage Area** board of directors announced that **Penn Dameron** will serve as the organization's Executive Director, effective immediately. Dameron will oversee all activities of the heritage area, including the completion of a management plan, grants, branding, launching of a regional destination website, research, and education/outreach. He brings more than two decades of leadership in western North Carolina as an attorney, judge, and through civic activities such as service on the boards of WNC Tomorrow, the Commission on the Future of North Carolina, and the Commission on the Year of the Mountains. Dameron is also an accomplished bluegrass musician. He will be based in the AdvantageWest office in Fletcher, NC and can be reached at 828-687-7234 or [pdameron@awnc.org](mailto:pdameron@awnc.org).



-The **Blue Ridge National Heritage Area**, in collaboration with the Conservation Fund, Sonoran Institute, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and NPS will hold two **Gateway Communities courses** in two of the Blue Ridge's three host regions May 3-6<sup>th</sup> and May 24-26. The workshops will engage leaders across the heritage area in visioning and planning exercises as well as educate them in topics related to heritage development. The knowledge and experiences gained during the 3.5 day workshop are transferable to real-world challenges that these participants face when they return to their communities following the workshop. The Gateway Community training strategy, traditionally used to improve collaboration between federal lands and adjacent communities, is being modified to address the unique challenges that landscape-scale, complex heritage regions with many partners and a complex set of management challenges face. For more information on resources related to the Gateway Community training strategy, visit <http://www.conservationfund.org> or contact Kristin Peppell at [Kristin\\_peppell@fws.org](mailto:Kristin_peppell@fws.org).

-The **6th Annual Coastal Development Strategies Conference** will be held in Biloxi, MS May 16-18 and hosted by the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources' Comprehensive Resource Management (CRMP) in association with the CRMP Stakeholders and the Mississippi Gulf Coast Chamber of Commerce. The main focus for this annual conference is to continue to work as a region of decision-makers to balance conservation efforts and economic development through partnerships in Southern Mississippi. This conference is designed for public and private organizations, municipalities, residents, and resource managers and decision-makers interested in improving Southern Mississippi's quality of life. For more information and to register, visit <http://www.dmr.state.ms.us> or contact Joan Murphy, Projects Officer, at [Joan.Murphy@dmr.state.ms.us](mailto:Joan.Murphy@dmr.state.ms.us), 228-374-5022, ext. 5380.

## ● News from the Alliance of National Heritage Areas

-The Spring board meeting of the **Alliance of National Heritage Areas** was hosted by MotorCities National Heritage Area in Detroit April 26-29. On Wednesday the 27<sup>th</sup>, Alliance board members joined members of the NPS Advisory Board Partnerships Committee on a full-day tour of area sites, which included the Ford Piquette Avenue Plant, GM World Headquarters, Walter P. Chrysler Museum, Meadow Brook Hall, Ford Rouge Factory Tour, and the Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village. Lunches and dinners were generously provided by MotorCities partners. Following a discussion on Thursday morning with NPS Advisory Board Partnerships Committee members, the board held their Spring board meeting. Gerrard Jolly, Program Director for the National Parks Foundation (NPF), made a presentation on NPF programs and discussed opportunities for strengthening the relationship between national heritage areas and the NPF. The NPF website is <http://www.nationalparks.org>.



## ● Grants and Awards Opportunities

-The National Trust for Historic Preservation is now accepting applications for the **Rural Heritage Development Initiative**, a project that will work with two rural pilot regions to implement preservation-based economic development strategies. The new initiative is funded in significant part through a \$745,000 three-year grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. Proposals are being solicited from regions that have the capacity to work collaboratively to develop cultural and heritage assets for economic benefit.

The Rural Heritage Development Initiative will bring together various multi-disciplinary services of the National Trust for intensive work with partners in the pilot regions over a three-year period. Through preservation-based strategies including heritage tourism, local entrepreneurial and business development, barn preservation, rural land-use planning, and neighborhood housing revitalization, the project will utilize local assets to achieve economic gains in the pilot regions. For additional information or to receive the RFP, call 202-588-6216. Applications (due June 30, 2005) are also available at [http://www.nationaltrust.org/about\\_the\\_trust/contracts\\_rfp\\_list.html](http://www.nationaltrust.org/about_the_trust/contracts_rfp_list.html). Proposals will need to demonstrate the ability to provide matching funds.

## ● Upcoming Conferences and Workshops

-**2005 International Heritage Development Conference:** June 5-8, 2005 in Nashville, TN, is sponsored by the Alliance of National Heritage Areas and hosted by the Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area. The conference website, <http://www.ihdc2005.org>, provides descriptions on over a dozen mobile



workshops, held during “Workshop Tuesday” in and around Nashville. Three evening events and twenty educational sessions will also provide registrants with an opportunity to experience Southern culture and hospitality while learning about national and international trends in preserving and celebrating distinctive landscapes.

On Sunday evening, Diane Nash, renowned civil rights activist, will speak at the “Voices of Freedom” event. On Monday evening, Tennessee Governor Phil Bredesen will speak to participants at Fisk University, and on Tuesday evening participants will enjoy an evening of “Tennessee Roots and Rhythm” at the Country Music Hall of Fame. Registration is available on-line at the conference website at <http://www.ihdc2005.org>. A preliminary conference program is also available. The conference is open to the first 500 registrants, and the registration deadline has been extended until further notice.

-National Urban & Historic Parks Conference Focuses On Partnerships--More than 150 city park enthusiasts will converge on Buffalo, New York for four days in May 2005 to attend **It Takes A Partnership: Urban Parks in the New Century**, a national conference presented by the National Association for Olmsted Parks, City Parks Alliance and Buffalo Olmsted Parks Conservancy. From creating innovative partnerships and finding alternative sources of revenue to maintaining historic landscapes, this special conference will address issues of particular interest to city and historic park leaders and advocates, landscape architects, urban planners and Olmsted devotees.

The conference, which is open to the public, will run from Thursday, May 19–Sunday, May 22, 2005 and will feature more than fifty park leaders, historians and policy experts from across the country. Visit <http://www.olmsted.org> for a complete conference agenda including lodging and conference registration or call 716-838-1249 ext. 30.

-The **2005 Southwest Summer Institute for Preservation & Regionalism**, offered through the Graduate Certificate Program in Historic Preservation & Regionalism at the University of New Mexico School of Architecture & Planning, is providing the following



courses this summer at their campus in Albuquerque: *Heritage Corridors: Learning from Route 66*; *Preservation Law: A Practical Tool Kit*; and *Industrial Heritage: Reuse of the Albuquerque AT&SF Railroad Shops*. These three-credit courses are offered in cooperation with the Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program, National Park Service; New Mexico Historic Preservation Division; President’s Advisory Council on Historic Preservation; National Trust for Historic Preservation; and Historic American Engineering Record, National Park Service. The institute’s mission is to provide a national and international forum on issues related to

historic preservation and regionalism through high-quality, intensive courses taught by leading experts in the field.

-The **Graduate Certificate Program in Historic Preservation & Regionalism** is a six-course program that integrates proven historic preservation techniques with related planning and design approaches for engaging history, cultural and place. The program prepares graduate students from a wide-variety of related disciplines to be able to contribute to the conservation of the architectural and cultural heritage while fostering design, planning, and economic development that increases the quality of life in neighborhoods and communities. For more information, contact [hprinst@unm.edu](mailto:hprinst@unm.edu), visit <http://www.unm.edu/~hprinst> or phone 505-277-0071.



## ● Publications

-“**The Reality Underneath the Buzz of Partnerships**” is a report based on a study funded by the Wallace Foundation to better understand the potentials and pitfalls of partnering. The website summarizes the report as follows: "Partnerships can be a powerful tool for strengthening cultural participation and expanding audiences. But partnerships are tools; they are not ends in themselves. Partnerships are not appropriate for every task, and they will not work if used incorrectly. Foundations may be overusing partnerships. Partnering is costly, so partners and funders need to be realistic about the time, money commitment required. Partnering is warranted when organizations have complementary missions, can bring different resources to the table, and when those resources are crucial for achieving the objective. Partnering may also be warranted when an objective can only be achieved through collective action and when the partners are truly committed to the objective.” View the report at:

<http://www.ssireview.com/articles/?PHPSESSID=5b7cacd28d82f54264989474055a4522>

## ● Other News of Interest

-Some 1,200 museums across Europe will allow free entry on Saturday, May 14 from 7pm to 1am as part of the first **Night of the Museums**. Museums of visual arts, science, and industrial and rural heritage and popular culture will participate in the event, which is based on the theme “Lights of the Night,” and most will provide free admission. The sites range from London's Tate and Tate Modern museums to the museum of carpets in Baku, Azerbaijan, or the museum of mines in Aljustrel, Portugal. While events based on this theme have been held before, this one provides the largest and most diverse range of sites to date.

## ● For more information on heritage areas, visit our **website**.

And please forward this bulletin to others who may be interested, and encourage them to join our e-bulletin address list by sending an email to your editor.

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